

# Milford Township News

Volume 6, Issue 1

Spring 2015



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### Important Dates

- April 11: Milford Twp Fire Assoc. Spaghetti Dinner!
- May 2: Somerville Fire Assoc Chicken Dinner!
- May 10: Vote!
- August: Fire Dept Open House
- Sept 12: Darrtown Reunion—put on by Bicentennial Committee!

## About this Newsletter Brad Mills, Trustee

Is winter really over!? Well, this newsletter is being mailed earlier than usual, so we may very well feel some more cold and snow before Spring, but soon we will be busy with many outdoor activities as we welcome warmer weather. In your busy schedules, please find time to attend the Milford Township Fire Department's Spaghetti Dinner on April 11, the Somerville Fire Association Chicken Dinner on May 2, and the Darrtown Reunion on September 12. I hope to have more information about the Reunion in the Fall newsletter, but it's never too early to get word out about these great local events!

As always, this mailing owes a debt of gratitude to Henry Sester and his company, KetMoy Printing ([www.ketmoy.com](http://www.ketmoy.com)). Henry continues to put the Township first, as he publishes this newsletter at a large discount. We are also grateful to be supported (see ads inside) by some great local businesses; B & M Landscaping, Chris Rodbro Insurance, and E&M Repair and Fabrication. We thank them for their support and hope that you will consider using all of our Township's wonderful local businesses.

Inside, you will find articles from and about the Fire Department, Butler County MetroParks, the Butler County Auditor, Somerville Fire Department, and the Collinsville Livestock Protective Association. If you would like to contribute or add an important event, then please call Brad Mills at 907-6793 or email [bradmills21@gmail.com](mailto:bradmills21@gmail.com). In addition to this newsletter, you can find past newsletters, or other important Township information at [www.milfordtownship.net](http://www.milfordtownship.net).

## Fire Report Milford Township Fire Association

### Mark April 11, 2015 for the Spaghetti Dinner

The dinner will be at the Collinsville Community Center from 4:00 till 7:00p.m. There will be raffles with 100 plus items and split the pot. We also have a raffle for a 40 inch high def. flat screen TV as first prize, \$100 cash second prize, and \$50 third prize. Tickets are on sale at Dunkelburgers Lawn & Garden Collinsville, The Hitching Post, Don's Carryout in Darrtown, or from any Milford Township Fireman. We have never raised our price for the dinner, so it remains \$7.00 in advance and \$8.00 at the door. Come out and support your fire department. 100% of funds raised go to support the Department.

We will host an open house this August. Plans will come together later this spring, so watch our facebook page for more details. We will have food and displays along with a train ride for the kids. Also, safety demonstrations and hand outs.

Remember to keep your driveways clear of overhanging branches. No one plans to need the Fire Department, but if we need to access your property, remember the fire trucks are much bigger than your family car and we would need to enter your driveway.

We still have the green highly reflective house number signs - contact any fireman for information.

As spring approaches, be very careful with burning of brush on your property. The taller dry grass will burn even if the new short grass does not.

Shawn Gallagher  
Jim Meador

# Collinsville Livestock Protective Association

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Collinsville Livestock Protective Association  
Founded 126 years ago

The Collinsville Live Stock Protection Association (CLPA) was chartered in 1889 as neighbors sought a way to protect one another from theft of livestock in a rural setting remote from police protection. They were one of several associations in the area.

Members had the authority “to pursue and arrest without warrant, anywhere in this State, any person charged with or any person where there is good reason to believe guilty of a Felony, and forthwith take such person or persons before some proper officer in Butler County, Ohio to answer such charge, and to detain such person or persons, until discharged by due course of law. The authority hereby granted not to be used unless the property has been stolen from this or a similar Association.”

Civilians were given arrest powers under the Ohio General Code Anti-Horse Thief Society provisions. In 1959 the state legislature removed police powers from such organizations but left their charters intact so they could continue as social groups. On Jan. 6, 1961 Secretary of State Ted W. Brown wrote to Harold H. Shaw, Secretary of CLPA “the said corporations had no powers or authority to issue commissions to the members thereof or to make arrests” and the only power or authority that the corporation had was social.

Officially chartered as Collinsville Stock Protection Association, the group is known by several variations: Collinsville Livestock Protection Association, and Collinsville Live Stock Protective Company. Whatever you call it, the gentlemen of the community celebrate their long history of service to the rural residents of the Collinsville area and enjoy their annual dinner and meeting.

History: “In 1919, ‘after R.O. Hood’s machine was stolen,’ the trustees offered a reward of \$25 for return of the auto and \$50 if the auto were found and the thief convicted. A \$25 award was also offered for ‘two red sows stolen from John Gerber.’ In 1922 committees from Darrrtown, Collinsville and Oxford met with George Nichol, chairman, and R.T. Finlay, secretary, and discussed poultry theft and agreed that each association contribute \$50 toward an area wide reward program and that members of all three groups cooperate to bring miscreants to justice. In 1935, members of the CLPA not only captured two men suspected of taking a \$12 hog from the Arthur Graf farm, but also appeared as witnesses in a Common Pleas jury trial in which the Hamilton pair were charged with petit larceny.”

The last arrest by a member of the CLPA was in 1945 when Paul Gerber apprehended two men who drove off with a hog in a rumble seat.

While the original purpose of the Collinsville Stock Protection Association may have been negated by time, the fact that it remains is a tribute to the idea that neighbors banded together to help each other at a time when there were few alternatives.

The primary source for this article was from The Oxford Press newspaper, March 3, 2007 by Bob Ratterman: “Neighbors United to HELP.”

**Gentlemen  
CLPA  
126<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL MEETING  
Monday, March 9, 2015  
7:00 PM  
Milford Township Community Ctr.  
\$16.00 Reservations Required  
Call (513) 659-3499**

MetroParks of Butler County is happy to announce that the Public works Commission selected a grant application in 2014 for Clean Ohio Grant Funding to enable MetroParks to purchase about 200 acres of land in Milford Township. This area is known as The Sycamore Bluffs Preserve Area of Four Mile Creek MetroPark and is the fourth property owned by MetroParks on the Four Mile Creek Corridor, joining Antenen Preserve, Davidson Woods/Hueston Farm and the Mile Race Preserve. According to the terms of the grant, the property can be used for conservation, education and passive recreation. Most importantly, this acquisition preserves access to the stream.

MetroParks has leveraged available resources to protect these Four Mile Creek properties by utilizing state grants, local match donations, full donations and collaborations. Until such time that funding exists to provide the amenities necessary to safely open The Sycamore Bluffs Preserve Area to the public, Antenen Preserve remains the only area along Four Mile Creek that is open daily to the public from 8 am until dark. The other properties are accessible to the public during special programming by MetroParks. Please visit MetroParks website [www.YourMetroParks.net](http://www.YourMetroParks.net) for opportunities to experience these beautiful spaces! Questions can be emailed to [Info@YourMetroParks.net](mailto:Info@YourMetroParks.net) or by calling 513.867.5835.



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## Veterans and the Homestead Exemption David Brown, Deputy Auditor

Butler County Auditor Roger Reynolds is pleased to announce that the Ohio Legislature has implemented a change in state law that allows 100 percent disabled veterans, regardless of age or income, to earn a double benefit from the Homestead Exemption program.

Those veterans who are 100 percent disabled from a service-related disability, as determined by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, need to contact the Auditor's Office to sign up.

Qualifying Ohio veterans may shield up to \$50,000 of the market value of their home from taxation. The savings vary by taxing district but average out to about \$835 per year in Butler County.

Disabled veterans applying for the exemption should use Form DTE 105I, which is available on the Auditor's web site at [www.butlercountyauditor.org](http://www.butlercountyauditor.org). Just click on the Homestead Exemption link located on the Auditor's home page. The deadline to apply for the Homestead Exemption program is June 1. For more information, call the Auditor's Office at 887-3154.



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Fire, Life Squad—Emergency: 911

[www.milfordtownship.net](http://www.milfordtownship.net)

### Board of Trustees

Russell McMillian 726-4442  
Paul Gillespie 523-0365  
Brad Mills 907-6793

### Fiscal Officer

Mollie Hansel 255-2501

### Newsletter Editor

Brad Mills 907-6793

### Meeting Times

The Township Trustees meet on the first  
Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Meetings  
are held in the Township Maintenance Bldg.

## Village of Somerville News

### SAT., MAY 2<sup>ND</sup>—SOMERVILLE VOL. FIRE ASSN. CHICKEN DINNER

Dinner from 4:00 - 7:00p.m.

**Menu:** Chicken ( choice of light or dark meat)  
Choice of 2 sides: mashed potatoes N gravy, green beans, or applesauce  
Beverage & Dessert included

**Cost:** Adults—\$9.00 a plate, and Children—4 to 10, \$4.50 per plate

Raffle tickets available from 4:00 - 8:00, w/ drawings during Bingo **BINGO STARTS @ 7:00 UNTIL CLOSING**

**Other information from Somerville:** Following the fire @ Megan's Deli on 1-9-15 the members of the Somerville United Presbyterian church started a rebuilding/recovery fund for Randy McGaha @ the Somerville National Bank. Anyone interested in contributing to it can contact Debbie or Denise @ the bank. Ask for the Megan's Deli Rebuild/Recovery Fund.



# Milford Township News!

**\*\*Check out our new website at [www.emrepairandfabrication.com](http://www.emrepairandfabrication.com)!!!\*\***